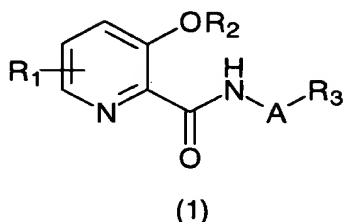


CLAIMS

1. A picolinamide derivative represented by formula (1) or a salt thereof:



wherein

A represents a bond or an optionally substituted alkylene chain;

R<sub>1</sub> represents one or more groups, which may be the same or different, selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, alkoxy, and haloalkoxy;

R<sub>2</sub> represents a hydrogen atom, benzyl, alkyl or alkanoyl, in which the groups other than the hydrogen atom may be substituted; and

R<sub>3</sub> represents a hydrogen atom, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, aryl or a heterocyclic group, in which the groups other than the hydrogen atom may be substituted,

excluding the case where R<sub>1</sub> represents a hydrogen atom, A represents a bond or a methylene chain, and R<sub>3</sub> represents phenyl or cyclohexyl, and the case where A represents an alkylene chain and R<sub>3</sub> represents a hydrogen atom.

2. The picolinamide derivative or salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein

alkylene chain represented by A is an alkylene chain having 1 to 12 carbon atoms;

alkoxy or haloalkoxy represented by R<sub>1</sub> is alkoxy having 1 to 4 carbon atoms or haloalkoxy having 1 to 4 carbon atoms;

alkyl or alkanoyl represented by R<sub>2</sub> is alkyl having

cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, aryl, and heterocyclic group represented by R<sub>3</sub> are respectively cycloalkyl having 3 to 12 carbon atoms, cycloalkenyl having 3 to 12 carbon atoms, monocyclic or polycyclic 3- to 12-membered aryl or 3- to 12-membered heterocyclic group.

4. The picolinamide derivative or salt thereof according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein alkoxy or haloalkoxy represented by R<sub>1</sub> is methoxy, ethoxy, 1-propyloxy, isopropyloxy, 1-butyloxy, 2-butyloxy, t-butyloxy, trifluoromethoxy, difluoromethoxy, fluoromethoxy, difluorochloromethoxy or trifluoroethoxy.

6. The picolinamide derivative or salt thereof according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein

the substituted alkyl represented by  $R_2$  is methoxymethyl or methoxyethoxymethyl and

7. The picolinamide derivative or salt thereof

according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein  $R_2$  represents a hydrogen atom, benzyl, acetyl or propionyl.

8. The picolinamide derivative or salt thereof according to any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein cycloalkyl or cycloalkenyl represented by  $R_3$  is cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cycloheptyl, cyclooctyl, cyclononyl, cyclodecyl, cycloundecyl, cyclododecyl, cyclohexenyl, tetrahydronaphthyl, decahydronaphthyl, cyclododecatrienyl, indanyl, norbornyl, or adamantyl.

9. The picolinamide derivative or salt thereof according to any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein, when cycloalkyl or cycloalkenyl represented by  $R_3$  is substituted by a substituent, the substituent is one, two or more groups selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, cyano, nitro, amino, carboxyl, hydroxyl, phenyl which may be substituted by one, two or more substituents selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, cyano, nitro, amino, alkylamino, alkanoylamino, alkyl having 1 to 5 carbon atoms, haloalkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkoxy having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and haloalkoxy having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkyl having 1 to 5 carbon atoms, haloalkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms and haloalkoxy having 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

10. The picolinamide derivative or salt thereof according to any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein aryl or heterocyclic group represented by  $R_3$  is phenyl, naphthyl, furyl, benzofuranyl, pyrrolyl, indolyl, thienyl, benzothienyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, pyridyl, quinolinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyridazinyl, pyrazinyl, oxiranyl, tetrahydrofuryl, perhydropiranyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl or morpholinyl.

11. The picolinamide derivative or salt thereof according to any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein when aryl or heterocyclic group represented by  $R_3$  is



[illegible]

**U** **C** **D**

[illegible][illegible]

**U** **C** **D**

**U** **C** **D**

**U** **C** **D**

**U** **C** **D**

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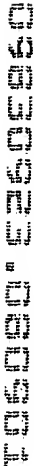
**W** **A** **R** **E** **N** **T** **I** **O** **N** **S**

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

3-methyl-4-(4'-trifluoromethylphenoxy)phenyl, 4-(4'-methylphenoxy)-2-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2,4-di-(4'-methylphenoxy)phenyl, 4-benzyloxyphenyl, 3-benzyloxyphenyl, cyclododecyl, cyclooctyl, 1-adamantyl, 1-adamantanemethyl, 4-cyclohexylphenyl, 3,4-ethylenedioxyphenyl, 4-(4'-nitrophenoxy)phenyl, 2,6-dimethyl-4-phenoxyphenyl, 4-(4'-N-isopropylaminophenoxy)phenyl, 4-(4'-isobutyrylpiperazin-1'-yl)phenyl, 2-methylcyclohexyl, cyclopropyl, cyclopentyl, cyclobutyl, 4-(2'-phenoxyethyloxy)phenyl, 4-(3'-phenoxypropyloxy)phenyl, 4-(3'-phenylpropyloxy)phenyl, 2-pyridyl, 3-pyridyl, 4-pyridyl, phenyl, 4-methylphenyl, 4-chlorophenyl, 4-fluorophenyl, 4-t-butylphenyl, 4-neopentylphenyl, 2-fluoro-4-methylphenyl, 3,4-dichlorophenyl, 3,5-difluorophenyl, 3,5-di-t-butylphenyl, 4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 4-trifluoromethoxyphenyl, 2-phenylcyclopropyl, cyclohexyl, 1-cyclohexenyl, 4-phenetyloxyphenyl, 3-chloro-4-phenetyloxyphenyl, 4-(4'-chlorophenetyloxy)phenyl, 4-methylcyclohexyl, cycloheptyl, cyclooctyl, 3-methyl-4-(3'-trifluoromethylphenoxy)phenyl, 4-t-butyl-2-chlorophenyl, 4-t-butyl-2,6-dimethylphenyl, 5-t-butylisoxazol-3-yl, or 4-t-butylthiazol-2-yl;

1-benzylpiperidin-4-yl, 4-(4'-aminophenoxy)phenyl, 4-benzoylphenyl, 1-indanyl, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphtho-1-yl, 1-homopiperidiny1, 2-hydroxycyclohexyl or 4-hydroxycyclohexyl.

14. Use of the picolinamide derivative or salt

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excluding the case where R<sub>1</sub> represents 4-methoxy  
with R<sub>4</sub> representing hydrogen or benzyl.

22. The picolinic acid derivative or salt thereof according to claim 19 or 20, wherein R<sub>1</sub> represents methoxy, ethoxy, 1-propyloxy, isopropoxy, 1-butyloxy, 2-butyloxy, t-butyloxy, trifluoromethoxy, difluoromethoxy, fluoromethoxy, difluorochloromethoxy or trifluoroethoxy.

24. A process for producing the picolinic acid derivative represented by formula (2) or salt thereof, comprising the steps of:

optionally removing the protective group by catalytic hydrogenation or hydrolysis.

optionally introducing a protective group into 3-hydroxypicolinic acid to convert 3-hydroxypicolinic acid to an N-oxide compound;

successively subjecting the N-oxide compound to acylation and rearrangement to introduce acyloxy into

28. The process according to claim 27, wherein the picolinic acid derivative represented by formula (2) or salt thereof is the compound according to any one of claims 19 to 22, or the compound produced by the process according to any one of claims 24 to 26.